

Chelsea Paint a Utility Box Project

ACCEPTING DESIGNS FROM ARTISTS!

The Chelsea Cultural Council invites artists to paint city utility boxes, as site-specific works of art.

Project Overview

The *Chelsea Paint a Utility Box Project* invites artists to paint city utility boxes with original designs. Once professionally painted, these utility boxes will contribute to the vitality and attractiveness of the urban streetscape and recognize & celebrate local artists and public art!

Process

- Up to 3 designs by each artist will be considered
- Applications can be submitted year-round for selection by the Chelsea Cultural Council (CCC)
- CCC will assign the time frame to paint and match each artist with a utility box
- All work must be completed within 2 weeks of start date

Stipend

Artists will receive a flat \$300 supply stipend upon completion of their box.
Artists must supply their own paint and equipment and submit a photo of the completed box.

Design Guidelines

- Artwork must be original.
- Artists must avoid dark palettes in order to prevent boxes from overheating in the sun.
- Designs may be representational or abstract but must respond to the urban context and be appropriate given the location and audience.
- Utility box size may vary; selected artists must be willing to adjust designs to their particular box.



617 466 4090

www.chelseama.gov/cultural-council



Important Details

Note that dark colors absorb heat, which can potentially overheat a utility box. Ideally any dark color must be used sparingly and fluorescent paints should be kept to a minimum.

Also because these are operational boxes, hinges, handles, locks and keyholes can't be painted over.

Once your application is received we will contact you within a few weeks. **Do not start your box prior to the receipt of an official notification letter from the Chelsea Cultural Council.**

Process

- Selections will be made by the Chelsea Cultural Council.
- Once approved, Chelsea Cultural Council will notify the artist of the time frame for painting and match each artist with a utility box.
- Project must be completed within 2 weeks of start date.
- Artists will receive a flat \$300 supply stipend upon completion of their box.

Design Guidelines

- Artwork must be original.
- Artists must avoid dark palettes in order to prevent boxes from overheating in the sun.
- Utility box size may vary; selected artists must be willing to adjust designs to their particular box.

Other Items to Consider

- The utility boxes must be scraped, cleaned and primed before they are painted. We suggest taping over functional areas before priming and painting.
- Artists must supply their own paint and equipment.
- Drop cloths should be used at all times while painting.
- Applied paint must not interfere with the operation of the box's hinges, handles, vents, locks, keyholes or any cautionary text on the box.
- Passage on the sidewalk for pedestrians must be at all times maintained. Blocking traffic or lanes of the street needs to reviewed with the Chelsea Cultural Council in consultation with the Department of Public Works.

Terms of Agreement

- Artwork submitted by the artists is original, solely owned by the artists and reproduction will not violate the rights of any third party.
- Accepted artwork developed under this contract shall be the exclusive property of the City of Chelsea.
- The City of Chelsea has the right to paint over my design without notification to the artists if, in the future, the appearance deteriorates due to weather, vandalism or utility box replacement.
- The artist grants the City of Chelsea an irrevocable license to make reproductions of the artwork and the final designs to be used in brochures, media, publicity and catalogs or other similar publications.

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Signature

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Date

APPLICATION

Artist or Organization Name:

Mailing Address:

Phone Number:..... Email Address:.....

Website URL:

The Chelsea Cultural Council matches each artist with a box of their choosing. Each decision is based on several factors including the need and visibility of the site and the best fit between concept and location.

The selection of utility box to be painted, and the matching of a box to artist, will be made at the discretion of the Chelsea Cultural Council. **However, if you have a preference for a particular utility box please list it below, using the street and cross street of each box.** Please list up to three, in order of preference.

1

2

3

- Please attach information about your artistic experiences.
- Describe your concept for each proposed utility box. Detail how it relates to the site or community in which it is location. Use extra pages if necessary.

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- Please include a full color sketch of your proposed utility box design. A template is provided at the end of this application.

Application checklist

- Signed application for:
Chelsea Paint a Utility Box Project
- Full color design - up to three accepted

Please submit completed applications

Chelsea City Hall
500 Broadway, Room 100
Chelsea, MA 02150

Chelsea Paint a Utility Box Project

Please use this utility box template to illustrate your design proposal in color. Sketches must be submitted electronically or on standard 8 1/2" x 11" paper.

The dimensions of the template do not accurately represent all utility box dimensions; therefor, the proposed design must be adjustable.

TOP

SIDE

FRONT

Artist name

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Title

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Materials

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Proposed

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Please feel free to include a photograph of the proposed box. Preferences for specific boxes and/or neighborhood will be considered but cannot be guaranteed.

SIDE

BACK